

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Regarding: Paul N. HARDY et al.
Serial No. 10/654,788
Filing Date 09/04/2003
For DEPLOYABLE BAG FOR A VACUUM BOX

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AF Amendment with Record of Interview

Attention: Group Art Unit 3727
Examiner Joseph C. Merek

M.S. AF
Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I certify that this correspondence is facsimile-transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office (571-273-8300) on 28 JUL 2005:

Christopher John Rudy: Christopher John Rudy 28 JUL 2005.

Thank you for the 05/06/2005 Office action for the present application as well as the courtesies extended in the telephone interview conducted by conversations and recorded messages with the Examiner on May 27, June 2, and July 20, 22 and 27, 2005. In reply to the outstanding final action and in consideration of the interview, please reconsider this application.

CLAIMS AMENDMENTS follow the present introductory page.

By presenting claims 3-16 and 21-25, this amendment more particularly points out and distinctly claims the invention, and is fully supported by the underlying specification to include drawings. No new matter is entered, and no added fee is due.

This amendment may be entered because it places the case in condition for allowance or reduces one or more issues for appeal. The amendments clarify the combination, remove offending phrases, import limitations from claims already examined, add structure to the vacuum box, or delete subject matter without prejudice. The new rejections are addressed, as expected. No new consideration is required. Please, therefore, enter this amendment.

As a RECORD OF INTERVIEW, the Examiner and the undersigned discussed applied art, with the undersigned submitting that no prior art had a vacuum box and inflatable bag combination, and that the invention avoids troublesome entry into vacuum boxes; and they discussed clarifying language for combination claims. The Examiner recommended adding structural limitations to the container from FIGS. 6 and 7. The Examiner's comment is invited.

The Examiner is thanked for approving the formal replacement drawings filed on February 7, 2005.

FURTHER REMARKS follow the CLAIMS AMENDMENTS.

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